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DEPARTMENT OF NATURAL RESOURCES
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February 12, 1991

TO: Minerals File

FROM: Holland Shepherd, Reclamation Specialist, and *HOS*
Tony Gallegos, Reclamation Engineer *adl*

RE: Site Inspection, Aragonite Mine and Mill/Thomas American Stone,
M/045/031, Tooele County, Utah

Date of Inspection: February 6, 1991, 1991

Time of Inspection: 10:00 a.m. - 1:00 p.m.

Conditions: Sunny, clear, 2-3 inches of snow cover

Attendees: Tony Gallegos and Holland Shepherd, DOGM; Steve Brooks, BLM; Myron Bateman, Tooele County Health Dept; Lon Thomas, Thomas American Stone, Rick White and Annush Badii, alleged property owners

This inspection was conducted as a follow-up to the Board's January 24, 1991 decision to obtain an interim permit and surety for the Aragonite mine and mill site. We met onsite with various individuals representing the county, state, U.S. Government, and property owners. The inspection was performed with the intention of obtaining a conservative estimate of the surface disturbance already existing at the mill and mine sites, for which the operator can be held responsible.

An inspection of the mill site was performed first. Using a hip chain, an area the shape of a trapezoid was measured off. The area measured, roughly estimates the area currently disturbed by mill site operations which includes: mill or process building, machine shop and storehouse, ore piles (the mill site is being used for the storage of a large amount of ore originating from the mine site), solid wastes landfill, staging areas, living area (consisting of trailer homes). The area encompasses 14 acres of disturbance (see attachment #1). The calculations performed are attached to this memo, as is a sketch (see attachment #2) of the disturbances found at the mill site.

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Disturbances at the mill site that are concerns include the solid waste dump, refueling area and living area. The BLM is especially concerned that tires and large pieces of metal debris be removed from the site to a licensed landfill. The Tooele County Health Department indicated that the operator would not be asked to remove solid wastes from the landfill, because of the low hazard of these wastes. The Health Department did indicate some concern about the living conditions of workers, who might be living at the site. Mr. Thomas indicated, that though workers had been living at the site before, they were not currently living there.

Mr. Thomas indicated that he would attempt to reduce the acreage of disturbance onsite to 5 acres. We explained to him that the process would take 2-3 years, which is needed to verify vegetation success.

An inspection of the mine site was made after completing our mill site inspection. The mine site is located in steep terrain, making it difficult to use the hip chain for estimating disturbance. Instead, we estimated disturbed acreage from an aerial photo, of the site provided by the BLM (see attachment #3). The disturbance is roughly estimated at 8.4 acres. The area of disturbance was sketched onto the map based on an ocular evaluation onsite, then planimetered to obtain the acreage. This estimate is no doubt low, when compared with the total acreage, which this operator may be responsible for at the mine site. Other areas of potential disturbance were not accessible due to the snow cover.

Much of the mine site disturbance consists of quarried areas and waste dumps. The quarry or pit areas will prove difficult to reclaim because of extensive, overly steep highwalls. These areas will probably require fencing at final reclamation, and the lower highwalls blasting down. Mr. Thomas did indicate that blasting the highwalls down at a point some 30-40 years from now, might be an option. Sketches of the North Pit N (attachment #4) and the North Pit S (attachment #5) have been provided. These are the areas with the most problematic highwalls. Also, photos of these features can be found in the file.

We indicated to Mr. Thomas, that small areas at the mine site, which had been scalped, if reclaimed this spring would not be added to the total disturbed acreage. Again, at the mine site, Mr. Thomas has indicated that he would like to reduce the site to 5 acres or below. We advised him again, this would take time, probably 2-3 years.

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The fact that these acreage estimates are preliminary and to be used only for interim permitting and surety was discussed with Mr. Thomas. As discussed during the Board Hearing, a more comprehensive site evaluation will be performed this spring before the permit is made permanent.

jb

Attachments

cc: Lon Thomas, Operator
Rick White, Property Owner
Lowell Braxton, DOGM
Wayne Hedberg, DOGM

M045031.8

Attachment #1

RECEIVED

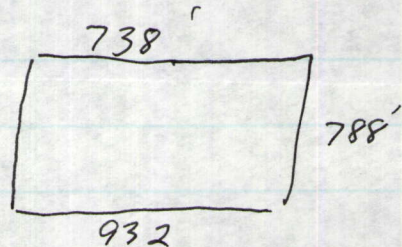
FEB 08 1991

M/045/031

Holland,

Attached is a enlargement of the air photo to 1" = 880'. The disturbed areas are shown in red and total 8.4 acres at the quarry.

The millsite measured: 673'



$$673 + 788 = 1461 \div 2 = 730.5'$$

$$932 + 738 = 1670 \div 2 = 835'$$

$$835 \times 730.5 = 609,967 \text{ sq ft} \div 43,560 = \underline{\underline{14 \text{ AC}}}$$

Steve Brack

67,200

un
un

ARAGONITE
MILL SITE

Attachment #2

2/10/11

DOG M

N

T, T = TANK

☐ = AUTO

☼ = PILE OF
ROCK OR DIRT

OO = TIRES

TRAIL = TRAILER
MOBILE HOME
OR CAMP

EQ = EQUIPMENT

F.E. = FRONT END
LOADER

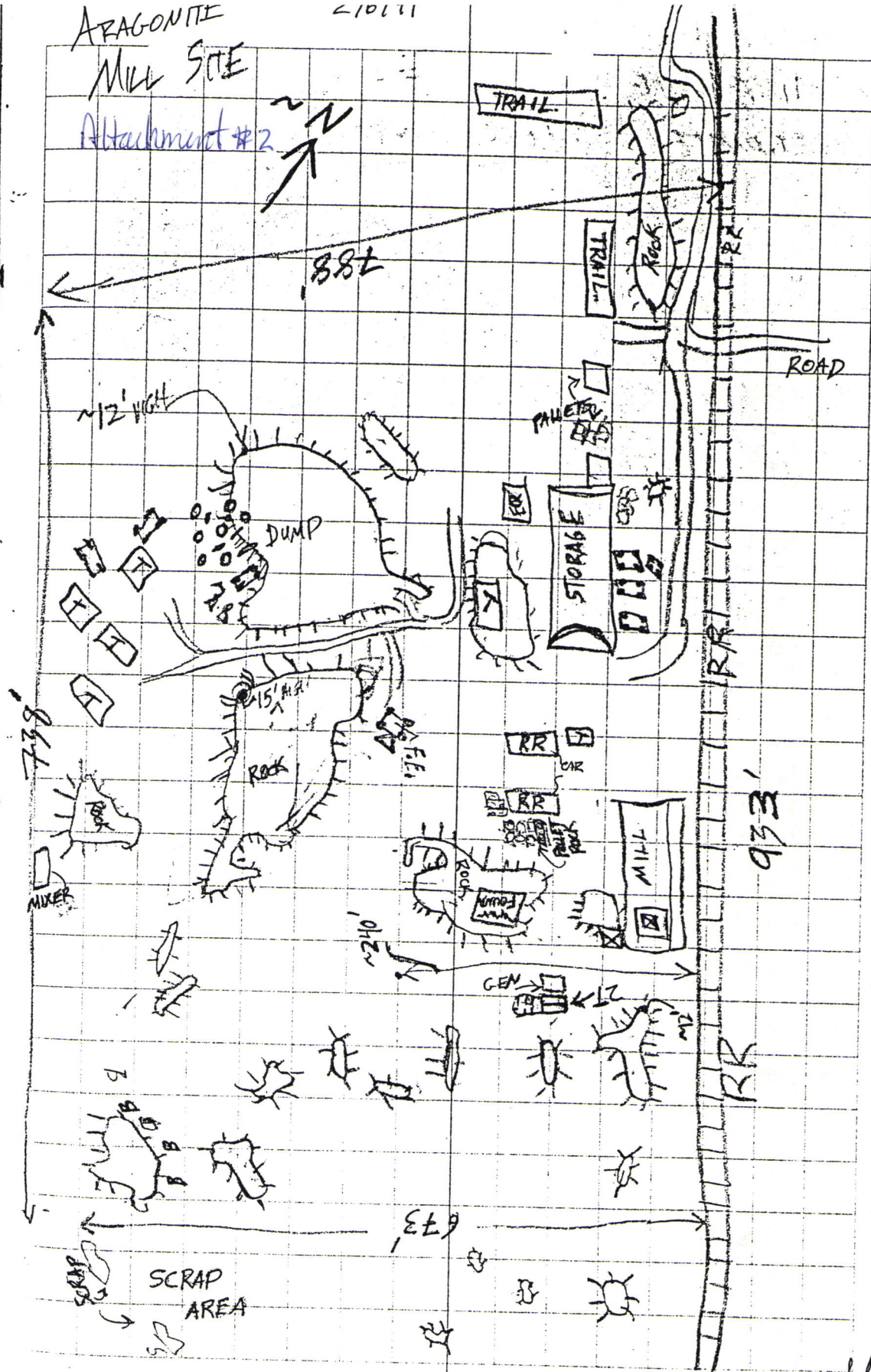
RR = RR CAR

GEN = GENERATOR

FOUND = CONCRETE
FOUNDATION

RR = RR TRACKS

☐ = PALLETIZED
ROCK



FROM
FIELD NOTES
Anthony Q. Jolley
M/045/051

Attachment #3

1" = 880'

North Pit N.

North Pit S.

South Pit

South Quarry

4/07/91 or

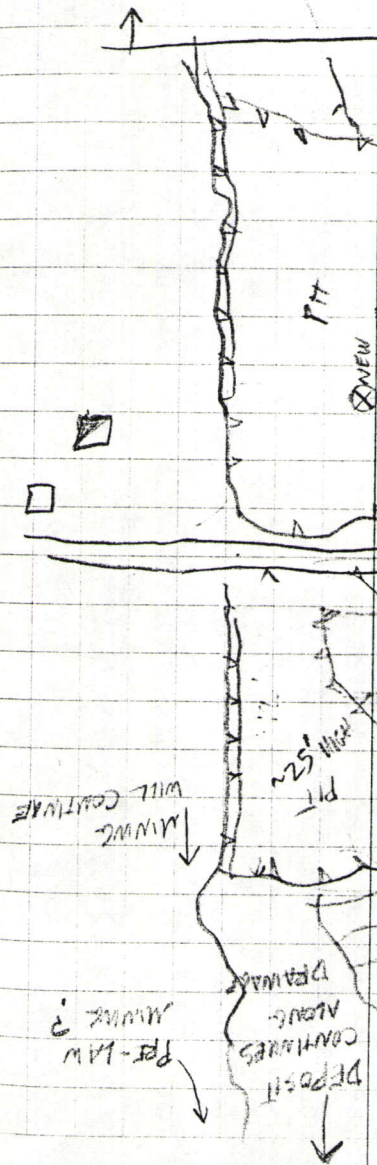
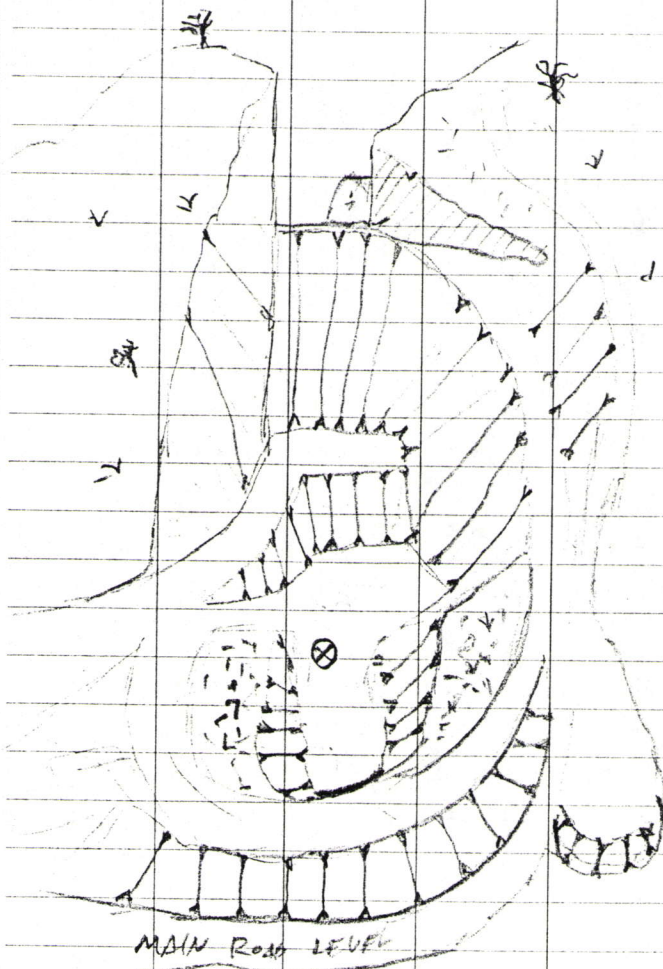
Intersect

147

2/6/91
@ MINE SITE
ARAGONITE

Attachment # 4

LOOKING ~ N



LOCKING ~ S

Attachment #5



- ROAD 25 FT WIDE

~ 13:20 LEFT THE M

Utah Calcium owned and operated by Park White
. owns all stock